ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A telephony system for a premises includes lines operably coupled to telephony devices, and trunks operably coupled to diverse networks (such as the PSTN network and

5   an Internet-based VOIP network). A voice router includes a switch matrix operably coupled between the lines and trunks. In processing an outgoing voice call placed on a particular line, switch control means controls the switch matrix to connect the particular line to at least two trunks (preferably in accordance with at least one routing table). The switch control means analyzes DTMF digit data (corresponding to DTMF digit tone(s)

10   generated on the line) to determine a classification tag for the outgoing voice call, and disconnects the particular line from at least one trunk based upon the classification tag to enable the outgoing voice call to proceed over another one of the at least two trunks. An incoming voice call received over a particular trunk is connected to one or more lines by the switch matrix (preferably in accordance with at least one routing table).